

Proclamation 7101—National Alternative Fuels Week, 1998

May 29, 1998

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

In today's robust and growing economy, the United States faces major challenges in meeting the ever-increasing demand for transportation goods and services while minimizing the adverse impact on our energy resources, environment, and future prosperity.

Today's American transportation system remains enormously dependent on oil. Highway transportation alone accounts for more than half of our Nation's oil demand, and the number of vehicles and miles driven on our roads is steadily increasing. Transportation is the second largest contributor to U.S. greenhouse gas emissions and will likely be the most significant contributor by the year 2000.

Fortunately, vehicles that are powered by alternatives to conventional gasoline and diesel fuels are already on the market, and domestically produced, renewable alternative fuels are readily available to American consumers. These alternative fuels—such as ethanol, methanol, natural gas, propane, electricity, and biodiesel—can make significant contributions to our energy security and environmental quality. By increasing the use of alternative fuel vehicles (AFVs), we can reduce our demand for imported oil, create new products, jobs, and businesses, and improve air quality by dramatically reducing carbon dioxide emissions as well as the hydrocarbons, nitrogen oxides, and particulate matter that are such major contributors to urban air pollution.

More than 350,000 AFVs are already on the road in the 60 communities participating in the Department of Energy's Clean Cities Program. This program is fostering the development of AFV markets in a network of cities across the country through partnerships among fuel suppliers, vehicle fleet operators, Federal, State, and local governments, and private sector organizations. Through the efforts of program participants, we are moving closer to our goal of building a transportation

system for our Nation that meets the energy, economic, and environmental needs of Americans today and of generations yet to come.

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim May 31 through June 6, 1998, as National Alternative Fuels Week. I call upon all Americans to observe this week with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-ninth day of May, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-second.

William J. Clinton

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NOTE: This proclamation will be published in the *Federal Register* on June 3.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

May 25

In the morning, the President traveled to Arlington, VA, and in the afternoon, he returned to Washington, DC.

In the evening, the President attended Game 2 of the NHL Eastern Conference Finals at the MCI Center.

May 27

In a morning ceremony in the Oval Office, the President received diplomatic credentials from Ambassadors Edgardo Dumas of Honduras; Baki Ilkin of Turkey; Pascal Akoussouelou Bodjona of Togo; Lee Hong-koo of South Korea; and Jaime Daremblum of Costa Rica.